

**ISLAND COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS – REGULAR SESSION
SEPTEMBER 25, 2013**

The Island County Council of Governments met in regular session on September 25, 2013 in the Commissioners' Hearing Room 102B, located at 1 NE 6th St., Coupeville. The meeting was called to order by Chair Nancy Conard at 9:10 a.m.

The Council of Governments Minutes and recordings of meetings may be located at
<http://www.islandcounty.net/commissioners/cog/2013/>

Members Present: Nancy Conard, Mayor, Town of Coupeville
Helen Price Johnson, Island County Commissioner
Jill Johnson, Island County Commissioner
Curt Gordon, Commissioner, South Whidbey Port District
Fred McCarthy, Mayor of Langley
Kelly Emerson, Island County Commissioner
Scott Dudley, Mayor, City of Oak Harbor
Benye Weber, Commissioner, Coupeville Port District

Also Present: Sherrye Wyatt, Jack Penland, Ron Nelson, Eric Brooks, Elaine Marlow

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nancy Conard called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Price Johnson and seconded by Curt Gordon to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2013 regular meeting. The August 28, 2013 meeting minutes were approved as written.

SUSTAINABLE WHIDBEY COALITION

Vouchers for Sustainable Whidbey Coalition were provided. It was moved by Curt Gordon and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the SWC vouchers.

WHIDBEY AND CAMANO ISLANDS TOURISM - DRAFT TOURISM CRISIS COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

Sherrye Wyatt, Ron Nelson and Jack Penland presented an overview of the draft Tourism Crisis Communications Plan.

Eric Brooks, DEM Director, spoke in support of the Tourism Crisis Communications Plan. Members of the COG provided input on the draft plan.

Sherrye Wyatt provided an update on film production activities in Island County.

.09 RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDS – Elaine Marlow

Elaine Marlow provided an update on the financial status of the .09 Rural County Economic Development Funds.

Curt Gordon asked if there was going to be an economic element to the Comprehensive Plan and if so can it be funded through the .09 process.

Commissioner Price Johnson noted the County is seeking clarification from the State Auditor and she will share the information once received.

APPLICATION TIMELINE: OCTOBER 1ST, 2013

Members discussed timelines for acceptance of .09 Rural Economic Development Fund applications.

Commissioner Price Johnson moved to accept .09 applications, twice a year, October 31 and April 30, with review by the COG at their November and May meetings. The motion was seconded by Fred McCarthy and carried unanimously.

Formal call for applications will be sent as a Press Release to the newspapers and members of the COG.

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

COG members will bring forward their legislative priorities for discussion at the October 23rd meeting. COG members confirmed attendance for the November 27th meeting (day before Thanksgiving). Chair Conard will work with the legislators to schedule a meeting to discuss the COG's shared legislative priorities in December. Suggested dates: December 4th or 9th at 3:00 p.m.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Commissioner Price Johnson indicated that she was interested in finding some training for elected officials.

Chair Conard will work with Eric Brooks on the options available to them.

AGENDA FOR OCTOBER MEETING

- Options for emergency management training
- Legislative priorities
- Presentation by Cheryn Weiser, Executive Director, Senior Services of Island County
- Population allocation update – Planning

OTHER ITEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST

Commissioner Price Johnson

- Children's Day Celebration, Saturday, September 28, 2013 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm @ South Whidbey Park
- Whidbey Partners In Preservation, September 30, 2013 @ 6:00 pm Whidbey General Hospital Board Room
- Senate transportation committee added an additional feedback forum on 10/15 at the Port of Bellingham Cruise Terminal, 355 Harris Avenue, Bellingham

Mayor Fred McCarthy

- Working on resolving the issue of shrimp vacuuming in the tidelands of Langley.

Mayor Scott Dudley

- City of Oak Harbor, Oak Harbor School District and Oak Harbor Chamber working on marketing/branding that would attract NAS Whidbey service men and women to shop in the Oak Harbor area.

- Make a request to the ICEDC that they put together a website similar to YesOceana.com. (It was suggested that Mayor Dudley bring forward a proposal or apply for .09 Rural Economic Development Funds

Approved this 23th day of October, 2013.

Approved